AROUND THE CITY

Will Be Open to Public.

New Donaldson liner Letitia will be open for public inspection from 2.30 to 5 p. m. on Saturday at the I.C.R. wharf, North End.

Repairing Ferry Boat.

Some minor repairs are being made to the ferry boat Governor Carleton, but she is ready to be put in service any time.

Is Improving.

The many friends of Captian Leonard, who has been confined to his bed for the past two weeks, will be glad to hear that he is improving and will be around in a few days.

Lancaster Board of Trade.

A meeting of the Lancaster Board of Trade will be held in the Fairville Court Room on Friday evening at 8 o'clock to complete the organization and to deal with the increased water rates, highways and other matters of importance to the parish.

Union Company's New Buildings.

The Union Foundry Company has stopped work for the winter on the new buildings they are erecting for additional plant, but are proceeding with the work of getting in new machinery and enlarging their storage department.

Diocesan Fund.

On New Year's the committee in charge of the diocesan fund of the Church of England handed over to His Lordship Bishop Richardson the sum of $2,000, being the amount collected to date to make up the deficit in the funds.

A Presentation.

George Clark, of the contracting firm of A. R. C. Clark & Son, was pleasantly surprised last evening when the men in his employ called and presented him with a pair of otter gloves. Mr. Clark was naturally much delighted with the gift. At Christmas time the firm presented each employe with a turkey.

Protestant Orphan Home.

The regular monthly meeting of the ladies' committee of the Protestant Orphan Home was held yesterday afternoon. Routine matters were discussed. It was decided to hold a reception during the early part of February in order to give those interested in the home an opportunity of seeing the work carried on by the children. The ladies of the committee wish to thank those who contributed so generously towards the Christmas tree, and helped to make the day a happy one for the children.

The Courtenay Bay Borings.

The officials of the Dominion Public Works Department who have been making borings in Courtenay Bay and the harbor channel, have about completed their work. It was said last night that with two more fine days the work in connection with the determination of the size of the ledge of rock in the channel would be completed. A. W. Gregory, the engineer in charge of the work, said that the ledge was not as large as it was supposed to be, and that it would not be a difficult matter to remove it.

Military Veterans Reunion.

The annual reunion of the New Brunswick Military Veterans was held last evening in the Market building. There was a good attendance present, all of whom spent an enjoyable evening. The first part of the night was taken up with a short programme, after which the men sat down to a supper in the outer room. During the evening the election of officers for the year took place resulting as follows:—President, Col. James Buchanan; vice-president, J. B. McLean; secretary, J. L. Engles; treasurer, G. G. Fraser.

Reversed Usual Procedure.

Between five and six o'clock last night on a car travelling towards Main street, an unusual occurrence took place, which was worthy of praise. The car which was crowded, all the seats being occupied, stopped at the corner of Mill and Union streets, and a young man returning from work with a dinner box under his arm, stepped on. He looked about him for a seat in vain. A lady near by realizing that the man must have felt tired after his day's work, got up and allowed the man to take her place, while she stood. The kind act on the part of the lady was the subject of considerable comment by those in the car.

The Automobile Matter.

Com. Schofield stated yesterday that the bye-laws prohibiting automobiles and auto-trucks entering upon the wharves at Sand Point was passed after consultation with owners of auto-trucks, and that he thought it had been sufficiently advertised to bring it to the attention of all automobile owners. He did not think any exception should be made in favor of doctors, as their automobiles were as liable to cause a fire as those of other citizens. He did not think doctors responding to an emergency call at Sand Point would lose much time, if they stopped their cars at the head of the wharves and walked the rest of the way.

FINAL SALE OF WINTER MILLINERY AT M. R. A.'S.

This will be the last opportunity the ladies will have to procure stylish hats and feathers at reduced prices. It is the grand wind up of all trimmed and untrimmed hats and trimming accessories and exceptional bargains will prevail, as everything is to be sold without reserve. The sale will start at 8.30 this morning in the millinery salon.

The Great Whitewear Event of the year commences at F. A. Dykeman & Co.'s on Saturday night. They have made months of preparations to make this the banner sale. In order to give the Sale the proper impetus at the start, they are going to give you such bargains as you have never had before in whitewear. A generous supply of all lines. Watch their windows and further announcements for particulars.

The St. John Business College day classes re-opened yesterday. The night classes will resume this evening. Hours 7.30 to 9.30.

SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS DAMAGE BY FIRE LAST NIGHT

Blaze in J. H. Poole & Son's Bonded Warehouse, on Nelson Street, Looked Very Serious for Time—Dock Street Firms Suffered Water and Smoke Loss - Two Small Fires.

The fire department were kept rather busy last night when they worked at no less than three fires. It was in the vicinity of seven o'clock when thick smoke was seen issing from the premises of Robertson, Foster and Smith, Ltd., from 41 to 47 Dock street, and an alarm was sent in from box 5. When the firemen arrived they found the smoke very thick and when they smashed the door of the shipping room and the cellar windows they were met with blinding volumes of smoke but could not see the fire. The smoke filled the store of Estey and Company, 49 Dock street and also got in the premises of the Page Wire Fence Company. The situation was very bad and it looked as if the fire was even worse than it proved to be.

An alarm was then sent in from box 7 on the corner of the North Wharf and Nelson street as the fire was found to be in the bonded and general warehouses of J. H. Poole and Son at 18 to 26 Nelson street. The box 7 alarm brought the North End department to Nelson street and they found a brisk fire burning in the Poole warehouse, which was well stocked with hides owned by Wm. Thomson and Co., and cheese owned by George S. DeForest and a large quantity of other goods. The fire was fought from both the front and rear and although quite difficult was well handled and was extinguished without getting into any of the other buildings.

The damage by fire, water and smoke will reach several thousands of dollars but the proprietors of the different firms were last night unable to state just how much the damage will amount to but stated that it was well covered by insurance.

The building is owned by the Small estate, represented by Mr. DeForest, and the damage to it is covered by insurance.

The chief damage to the stock of Robertson, Foster and Smith was by smoke and water, while Estey and Co. and the Page Wire Fence Co. suffered from the smoke.

Fire on Moore Street.

About 9.30 o'clock last night the North End firemen were called out by an alarm from box 312 for a fire which had started in a shed adjoining the residence of Mrs. Connolly, 78 Moore street. A horse was in the shed at the time but was got out safely. The fire made a good blaze but was quickly quenched when the firemen got a stream of water on it. The damage to the shed did not amount to very much.

Canadian Pacific House Damaged.

About 10.45 o'clock an alarm was sent in from box 8 for a slight fire in the Canadian Pacific House on North street. The fire was caused by an open grate. The fire in the grate had got rather low and one of the boarders threw some oil on it to make a blaze with the result that the blaze from the oil set fire to the wall in the room. The fire was quickly put out with but very little damage but a large number of foreigners who were in the boarding house at the time became very much excited and picking up their baggage they hastened from the building, some of them not waiting to carry out their luggage but throwing it out on the sidewalk.

Another North End Fire.

The fourth alarm within twelve hours was rung in shortly after two o'clock this morning from box 145, for a serious fire which broke out in the rear of the store occupied by Beattey & Johnston on Main stret. The damage amounted to several hundreds of dollars.

On arriving at the scene of the blaze the firemen found a brisk flame burning in the rear of the premises. On gaining an entrance they found what gave promise of becoming a serious fire. Prompt measures however, brought the blaze under control, and prevented the fire from reaching the upper floors of the building which are occupied as a boarding house. In the store at the time was a large quantity of dry gods, and the whole stock was practically destroyed by fire or water, the damage amounting to several hundreds of dollars.

The firemen succeeded in keeping the fire restricted to the lower floor of the building, the only damage resulting in the upper portion being from smoke. The fire was got under control about three o'clock. Whether or not the damage is covered by insurance could not be ascertained.

SOUTH AFRICAN STEAMER KWARRA HAD ROUGH TRIP

Continuous Westerly Gales and High Seas Throughout Whole Voyage - Worst in My Experience, Says Captain Davis -- Other Winterport Items.

Steamers arriving at this port during the past week all report the weather on the western ocean to be anything but pleasant, great gales and high seas being met with continually. Yesterday morning the South African steamer, Kwarra, Capt. Davies, arrived from Shields, in ballast. Capt. Davies when seen by a Standard reporter yesterday afternoon, said that during his career as a sailor he never experienced such weather as that of the past voyage. He said that he had crossed the Atlantic several times, meeting with ordinary weather on each occasion, but that the series of westerly gales with which he was forced to contend on this trip surpassed any he had experienced on the Atlantic and other seas of the world during his lifetime. For many hours the steamer was at the mercy of the waves.

Two days after leaving Shields the ship ran into heavy westerly gales, which continued until the Grand Banks off Newfoundland were reached when the weather, instead of clearing, became heavier, resulting in such a terrific blow that during the trip to Sable Island those in charge were forced to lay the vessel too for 36 hours during which time she was entirely at the mercy of the waves. Great seas broke over the steamer, and although no damage was done, the situation was precarious in the extreme. From Sable Island to the Lurcher Shoals the dirty weather continued, and all on board were glad when the ship was safely docked at No. 7 berth at Sand Point yesterday morning.

The Kwarra will load a large general cargo at this port for Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, East London, Durban and Delogoa Bay besides a large consignment of flour, and will have the distinction of taking the first trainload to come over the new National Transcontinental Railway from the west. This train left Port Colbourne on Wednesday for this city, after passing over the Transcontinental and Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway. The flour will reach its destination half way round the world two months and a half after the wheat left Saskatchewan. After completing her South African calls the Kwarra will go to Burma where she will take a cargo of rice for England.

Another steamer to arrive in port yesterday was the Inishowen Head, Capt. Pickford, from Belfast via Sydney, C. B. Capt. Pickford reports heavy weather with continuous westerly gales and high seas. The Inishowen Head was also laid too for several hours during which time she experienced the full fury of the storm.

The C. P. R. steamer Lake Champlain, Capt. Kendall, arrived at Sand Point yesterday morning after a rough trip. The Champlain had on board 300 passengers all of whom were glad to be ashore once more, as owing to the terrific gales accompanied by rain and snow, they experienced a very unpleasant voyage.

That an enormous amount of grain is being shipped through this port this winter, is proven by the fact that already 1,413,145 bushels have been taken from the C. P. R. elevator while 104,000 bushels have been shipped from the I. C. R. elevator. The grain record so far this season, is as follows: Received at the C. P. R. elevator during November, 340,906 bushels; received during December, 608,967 bushels, making a total of 1,949,783 bushels. Shipped from the C. P. R. elevator during November, 152,000 bushels; during December, 1,261,174 bushels, making a total of 1,413,145 bushels.

In the I. C. R. elevator 300,000 bushels have been received out of which the Furness liner Shenandoah took 40,000 while the Inishowen Head now in port will take 64,000 bushels of flour.

Much silver is being shipped to the Old Country this winter through St. John, several lots having already been taken away on different steamers. Yesterday a number of interested spectators might have been seen looking over a large consignment at the union depot en route from Cobalt to London. The weight of this consignment was about 20,000 pounds. It consisted of 200 bars each weighing in the vicinity of 200 pounds. Two men armed with revolvers guarded the lot.

HE ENTERTAINED HIS OLD FRIENDS

Retiring Fireman Gives Dinner to Former Colleagues in the Ranks of the Department.

Alex Scott, who for many years was foreman of No. 5 Hose Company in the North End, and who severed his connection with the fire department a couple of weeks ago, entertained a large number of his firemen friends at his home on Main street last night. With the exception of a couple of occasions when some of the firemen had to respond to alarms of fire a most enjoyable time was spent and as soon as the firemen returned from the fires all hands continued to make merry. A bountiful banquet was served in Mr. Scott's spacious dining room and after the large party had partaken of the excellent repast cigars were passed round and a couple of hours pleasantly spent in speeches and music. Ex-foreman Scott proved himself a royal entertainer.

For the many years that Mr. Scott was in the department he was one of the most popular members and was one of the best fire fighters in the city employ.

M. R. A. STORES WILL CLOSE SATURDAY EVENINGS.

Manchester Robertson Allison, Ltd., will close their stores on Saturday evening during the months of January and February. The Saturday hours of business during these months to be from 8.30 a. m. to 6 p. m. It is hoped that the patrons of this firm will endeavor to arrange their Saturday's shopping during the hours mentioned.

PREPARING NEXT YEAR'S ESTIMATES

Commissioners Going Into Requirements of all Departments and will be Ready by January 15.

The city commissioners are busy making up the estimates for the year. They are going carefully into the requirements of all the departments and will have the estimates ready before the fifteenth of the month. Yesterday the commissioners were occupied with the recommendation of Com. Agar in regard to the appropriations for the public works department, and it is expected the amount to be spent by this department this year will be settled today.

Some of the commissioners have been making large plans for the improvements of their departments, but it is said that the appropriations are not likely to be greatly increased, owing to the difficulty of raising the money.

Mayor Frink is preparing a financial statement regarding the past year at city hall, and it will probably be submitted to the council at its next meeting.

CHRISTMAS TREATS HELD

Scholars of the Germain Street Baptist and Carleton Methodist Sunday Schools Made Merry Yesterday.

The Christmas festivities still continue, and in the different Sunday schools the various entertainments which annually mark the presence of the season are being held. Yesterday two of the schools held their Christmas treats and entertainments, Germain street Baptist church and the Carleton Methodist church.

In Germain street church yesterday afternoon the primary department made merry. The tree of generous size and laden with gifts for the youngsters, was the object of importance, and candy and other good things which they received put them in the best of mood.

The junior and intermediate members of the school held forth in the evening. While the tree was not a part of the order of the hour, a most enjoyable time was spent. A pleasing programme was carried out in which the boy scouts took a prominent part. Mr. Armitage sang a solo, a piano duet was given by Miss Mildred Barker and Marion Reid. John MacKinnon, Mr. Ingleton and W. F. Nobles also took part. A number of gramaphone selections concluded the programme, after which refreshments were served.

In the school room of Carleton Methodist church, when the evening's programme was about to begin Santa Claus accommodatingly appeared on the scene, and after receiving an avalanche of requests from the children dispensed gifts to all. The programme was then carried out, and included several choruses by the primary department, recitations by Madge Brittain, Jack Owen, Gertrude Thomas and Murray Stanley, and a solo by Master Frank Thomas.

The second part of the programme consisted of presentations. The pastor of the church, Rev. H. E. Thomas, on behalf of the school and church, presented Miss Emma Brown with an address and purse of gold, in recognition of the valuable services rendered as teacher of the primary department. Mrs. H. E. Thomas, as teacher of the advanced class was also remembered, receiving a handsome handbag and purse from her scholars. The attendance was large, and the entertainment passed off successfully.

EXPECT RUSH FOR BUILDERS

This Year Expected to be Banner One — Last Year Good, but Many Carpenters Idle Now.

At the meeting of the carpenters union last evening it was reported that work was getting slack, and that quite a number of men in the building trades were out of work. So far as building operations go the past year was a very good one, a large number of new structures being erected, and a good deal of repair and alteration work being carried out. The prospects for a boom in the building line in the spring are said to be good. In addition to the post office and two new banks, it is said there will be a large number of buildings of an expensive character put up in the city this year, while there will be an unusual number of tenements and dwelling houses erected to meet the increasing demand for housing accommodation on the part of the working classes.

Were Acting Disorderly.

The police have reported Harold and Francis Gaynes, Robert Geahams, Charles Cassidy and Frank and Frederick Fish for acting disorderly on Frederick street, on Wednesday evening.

Mantles—Grates—Tiles

It will be found advantageous to inspect our stock get our prices before purchasing any of the above.

Tiles for Floors, Vestibules, Bathrooms, Walls and Grates

W. H. THORNE & CO. LTD.
MARKET SQUARE & KING ST.

An Old Name on a New Creation

NEW ART WILLIS PIANO

A new style WILLIS Piano endorsed by the best pianists. Write for Catalogue.

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MANUFACTURERS, ST. CATHERINE STREET WEST, MONTREAL, P. Q.

Sole Canadian Representatives the Peerless KNABE and other leaders.

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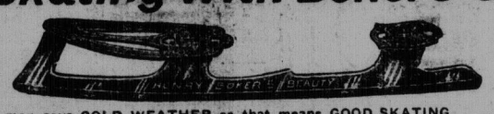
Easy Skating With Bokers Skates



The weather man says COLD WEATHER so that means GOOD SKATING.
Better Skates than Bokers cannot be had at the price.

The Leader	75c. pair	The Beauty	$2.00 pair
The Rover	$1.25 pair	The Novo	$2.75 pair
The Hero	$1.50 pair	Hockey King	$2.75 pair
The Caesar	$1.75 pair	Montreal Hockey	$4.50 pair

SKATE STRAPS AND HOCKEY PUCKS.

EMERSON & FISHER, LTD., 25 GERMAIN STREET PHONE 2520

ALL M. R. A. STORES WILL CLOSE AT 6 P. M. SATURDAY DURING THE MONTHS OF JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

Grand Final Clearance of Trimmed and Untrimmed Hats, Fancy Feathers and Wings

An Exceptional Value Giving Event at Which Very Low Figures Will Prevail

This will be the grand final wind-up of our Winter Millinery and because we do not intend to carry anything over to another season, prices have been reduced to a rapid and complete clearance level.

There is yet enough of the winter to come for you to get practically the full measure of wear out of your purchase and while this is a last sale, there will be a fairly good assortment in all lines to choose from.

IT WILL BE A LOST CHANCE TO DELAY, FOR THE CHOICEST BARGAINS WILL GO WITH A RUSH, SO COME FOR THEM IMMEDIATELY

COMMENCING THIS MORNING

STYLISH UNTRIMMED HATS—A nice variety of popular and becoming shapes in stiff and soft felts. Many of the hats sold early in the season at top notch figures. No doubt some of these styles will be suitable for next season's wear. All are to be cleared and the prices are .. 19c., 39c., 79c.

UNTRIMMED VELOUR HATS—A limited number only. Sale price, each .. $1.75

HANDSOME TRIMMED HATS—Thisis your opportunity to consider most remarkable values as the collection comprises many kinds of smart models (many of them imported) the majority of which are offered at about one-half their former prices. The very hat you desire may be the first to take someone else's fancy—so better be on hand promptly. Sale prices .. $1.75, $3.00, $5.00

FASHIONABLE FEATHERS AND WINGS—It will be wise economy to select these liberally as feathers and wings are always appreciated to work into various trimming effects as you desire them—and not often are you able to buy such desirable feathers as these for so little money.

Natural Bronze Coque Feathers, Vulture Feathers, Hackle Feathers and Soft Effects, Cut Ostrich Pompons, Feather Bands, Uncurled Ostrich Feathers, Stiff Wings, Soft End Wings. Marked at two prices only, as all must be sold. Your choice, each .. 10c. and 25c.

No Approbation No Exchange

SALE WILL START AT 8.30 IN MILLINERY SALON—SECOND FLOOR.

Annual Free Hemming Sale of Household Linens and Cottons Will Start Next Monday in Linen Room

Manchester Robertson Allison, Ltd.